



Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission

200 Piedmont Avenue SE | Suite 1402, West Tower | Atlanta, Georgia 30334

404-463-1980 | www.ethics.georgia.gov

Teleconference Meeting | Tuesday, August 19, 2014 | 10:00 AM

Summary of Commission Meeting

Location: 200 Piedmont Ave. SE Suite 1402,
14th Floor, West Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

PRESENT:

Commission Members via phone:

Hillary Stringfellow, Vice Chair
Dennis Cathey, Commission Member
R. Lawton Jordan III, Commission Member
Mary Paige Adams, Commission Member

Commission Staff:

Holly LaBerge, Executive Director
Bethany Whetzel, Staff Attorney
Robert Lane, Staff Attorney
Kitty Farias, Confidential Secretary
Nancy Sandberg, Legal Administrative Assistant

Commission Members Absent:

Heath Garrett, Commission Member

Office of the Attorney General via phone:

Stefan Ritter, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Kelly Campanella, Assistant Attorney General

SUMMARY OF SUBJECTS ACTED UPON:

Subject	Summary
Meeting Called to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Hillary Stringfellow, Vice Chair.
Opening Comments of the Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Vice Chair identified all members present via phone and welcomed all the commissioners and staff.Vice Chair acknowledged attending public
Election of Commission Chair and Vice Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Vice Chair opened the floor for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. It was motioned and seconded to appoint Hillary Stringfellow as the new Chair and Lawton Jordan and the new Vice Chair.
Welcome Mary Paige Adams as a new Commission Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Chair welcomed and gave a brief introduction of new Commission member Mary Paige Adams.
Welcome Bethany Whetzel and Robert Lane as Staff Attorneys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Chair welcomed the two new staff attorneys, who started on July 1st.Each attorney gave a brief description of their backgrounds and qualifications.



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Welcome of New Staff Attorneys <i>Continued</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Holly LaBerge and each of the attorneys spoke to the progress that each has made since coming on board on complaint cases, advisory opinions and rules, civil penalty matrix in relation to complaints, cases that have found to have technical defects, the cases that have or will be Administratively Dismissed and those in process of being presented as Consent Orders and Compliance Orders.
Resolution for Kevin Abernethy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Motion was made to resolve and pass the resolution recognizing Kevin Abernethy's contributions to the Commission during his four year term of office, two of which were as Chair.Holly read the resolution.
Meeting Schedule for remainder of 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussion was opened. It was decided that the next meeting, which would be a full meeting that would be held late September with another to follow in mid-November for 2014. The dates will be determined after consulting the Commissioner's, attorneys and commission staff's calendars. The 2015 meetings were suggested to be quarterly at the end of March, June, September and November.
Comments from the Commissioners:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Chair motioned and it was approved to modify the agenda to take comments from the Commission members and add an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.Commissioner Lawton commented on the ongoing audit, stating that they have not received any information on the results. The intent of the audit was two-fold: to investigate the validity of internal criticism and to validate good work with suggestions for improvement.
Comments from the Public:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The floor was open for public comments.There were no public comments.
Executive Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A motion was made and approved to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation and advice of counsel.Executive session was entered into at 10:28 AMExecutive session was closed at 10:37 AMCommissioner Cathey exited the meeting at 10:44 AMA motion was made and approved to move back into open session of the Commission meeting at 10:52 AM
Meeting Adjourned	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting Adjourned at 10:54 AM